

in securing adequate State and Federal transportation funding for county governments across New York State. Bill has exemplified the term public servant and has devoted himself to community service in both his professional and personal lives. Mr. Speaker, I have always said you can judge a person by how much he returns to his community. By that measure, Bill Reich is a great American.

STATE CHAMPIONS FROM THE
SIXTH DISTRICT OF NORTH
CAROLINA

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as we conclude the school year, I would like to take a moment to recognize some outstanding young people in the Sixth District of North Carolina who can rightfully wear the title of "champions." We are proud to say that seven schools in our district have produced state champions in baseball, soccer, wrestling, tennis, and cheerleading. We are proud of these individual and team achievements and wish to recognize our North Carolina scholar-athletes.

We begin with a soccer team that is not only the best in our state, but is rated number one in the nation. The Greensboro Day School girls soccer team completed an undefeated season with its fourth consecutive independent school state championship on May 16. The team ended its season with a perfect 21-0 record. In fact, the Bengals have won 42 straight games and their perfect season vaulted them to the top spot in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America-Umbro Top 20 soccer poll.

Congratulations are in order to Head Coach Kim Burroughs, her assistants Paul Lieb and Dana Tilley, and every member of the Greensboro Day School squad. Contributing to the number one ranking were Christian Anton, Lindsey Marshall, Sara Pickens, Katie Carson, Mary Katherine Davis, Gabi Lieb, Brooke Marshall, Kelli Robinson, Annie Shulman, Landy Douglas, Lauren Groat, Kathleen Martin, Christie McGroarty, Emily Norman, Suzanne Cole, Jenee Kwaitkowski, Jenny Gilrain, Kirsten Paul, and Kendra Kasik.

Everyone contributed to the perfect season and the national recognition. After winning another state title, Athletic Director Freddy Johnson told the Greensboro News & Record that he had t-shirts printed with their number two national ranking. When the Greensboro Day School girls soccer team made it all the way to number one in the nation, the athletic director told the newspaper "I've got to get them new shirts." That way everyone will know that the Bengals are number one in North Carolina and the U.S.A.

In fact, our district is the home of two state soccer champions this year. On May 30, the High Point Central High School girls soccer squad captured the North Carolina 1-A/2-A championship with a 4-0 win over Eastern Alamance High School. The Bison were led by MVP Lee Culp who had two goals and an assist. The opposing team's coach, Kevin Farrell, told the High Point Enterprise, "She's (Culp) a great player. She's able to run and run in this heat, and I think that was a big difference."

Culp told the newspaper that the win was a team effort. "I was surprised, but I don't think I deserve it (the MVP award) because we have 18 great players on this team." Everyone would agree with that statement. Joining Culp on the championship squad were Sarah Luther, Caithlin Williams, Price Keever, Mandi Tinsley, Leslie Olsen, Katie Copeland, Jenny Thomas, Jenni Tinsley, Lindsay Walker, Erica Bell, Lindsay Holbrook, Mary Orr, Jessica Harrison, Tina Tinsley, Graham Magill, Andrea Brown, and Lindsey Husted.

Congratulations also are in order for Head Coach David Upchurch, his assistant Pete Chumbley, and managers Scott Salter, Robert White and Kim Liptap. MVP Culp told the newspaper, "Right after the game, we just turned around and said, 'We're going to be back here next year.'" That may or may not happen, but one thing is for sure, we need to congratulate the High Point Central girls soccer team for winning this year's 1-A/2-A championship.

Now that we are in the middle of the baseball season, we are pleased to announce that two high schools in the Sixth District have captured state championships. Eastern Randolph High School won North Carolina's 2-A baseball title while Northwest Guilford High School captured the 4-A crown.

Eastern Randolph defeated Whiteville 8-2 on May 31 to win the 2-A championship. Wildcat Head Coach Tommy Maness told the Greensboro News & Record that the state title was the goal which was set on the first day of practice. "It seems like it's been an eternity since February 9," Coach Maness said. "These guys, back then, they set a goal and said 'hey, we want to win a state championship.'" It was a goal that may have been set last year when Eastern Randolph made it to the state semifinals.

This year, the Wildcats made it all the way to the top thanks to the contributions of Coach Maness, his assistants Neill Kivett, Harold Kivett, Danny Martin, and Cecil Mack, statisticians Brandie Craven and Mary Beth Butt, and every member of the talented Wildcat squad. Congratulations go to Darren Beasley, Anthony Birchette, E.J. Brower, Matt Brown, Mickey Burgess, Andrew Conner, Morgan Frazier, Rod Goldston, Michael Johnston, Jonathan Kirkman, James Lowe, Zack Moffitt, David oats, Greg Rich, Thomas Seawell, Nathan Sheppard, Darrin Stewart, and Brian Wright.

The other Sixth District high school to win a state baseball title was Northwest Guilford. Not only did the Vikings capture the state 4-A baseball championship on May 31, but the win culminated the 32-year career of an outstanding baseball man, Northwest Guilford Head Coach Sandy Gann. Coach Gann's final victory gave him a career record of 422-248 and the first state championship of his remarkable baseball tenure.

Northwest Guilford defeated Raleigh Athens Drive 7-5 in the championship game to capture the 4-A crown. The win was remarkable for several reasons. First, Raleigh Athens Drive was ranked 23rd in the nation going into the tournament. Second, the Vikings' starting pitcher had thrown only two innings all year while the Jaguars' starter was ranked by Baseball America as one of the nation's top 10 juniors. Finally, not many thought Northwest Guilford would even make it to the postseason when the team began the season

with a 6-9 mark. The Vikings regrouped, however, to finish 18-9 and win the state title.

Again, congratulations to Head Coach Sandy Gann, his assistants Donnie Redmon, Sonny Gann and John Hughes, scorekeeper Alan Brown, and every member of the Northwest Guilford squad. Contributing to the state title run were Andrew Angel, Brad Comer, Matt Crayton, Jeff Fisher, Eric Freeman, John Gann, Justin Hall, Jamie Hemingway, Eric League, Josh McCall, Phillip Nicolette, Justin Smith, Jason Walker, Jeremy Walker, and Henry Williams.

Our district is also home to a tennis champion this year. Western Alamance High School defeated Statesville 7-2 in May to win the North Carolina boys 2-A tennis title. The championship win culminated a 20-1 record for the season with the only loss coming to 4-A champion Raleigh Broughton High School. Head Coach Barry Sumner has compiled an impressive 68-4 record in only three seasons at Western. Coach Sumner told the Alamance News that the win reflected a season of hard work and dedication. "The team played real well," Coach Sumner told the newspaper, "and the guys composure was good. We're very happy for both the school and community."

Congratulations to Coach Sumner, his assistant John Dutton, manager Bonnie Richardson, and every member of the tennis squad, including Brandon Smith, Kevin Kriner, Robert Siletsky, Blair Smith, Richard Dutton, Justin Kilpatrick, Bradley Blanks, T.J. Stecker, Matthew Walton, Jonathan Walker, and Brian Smith.

Every sports team needs cheerleaders and the Sixth District of North Carolina is home to one of the state's best. The Southwestern Randolph High School cheerleaders won the North Carolina 2-A cheerleading title in February. This was the seventh time the Cougar cheerleaders have won the state championship but it was the first for new Head Coach Jamie Hogan. Hogan followed in the footsteps of longtime Southwestern Randolph cheerleader Head Coach LuEllen Morgan who was Hogan's assistant this year.

Congratulations to Coaches Hogan and Morgan, and every member of the squad, including Darian Walker, Alicia Miller, Sara Knapp, Katie Copple, Melissa Foster, Jamie Parrish, Kelly Bryant, Ashley Davis, Marie Nance, Danielle Tedder, Jessica Mullis, Casey Swart, and Jenny McGaha.

Finally, the Sixth District was the home this year to an individual athlete who won a state championship. Andrew Slack, a junior at Ragsdale High School won the state 3-A wrestling title in February. Competing among 16 wrestlers in the 130-pound class, Slack captured the 3-A title in Charlotte.

Andrew told the Jamestown News, "I prepare myself to win by working hard every day and trying to improve myself every day." Slack accomplished that goal by winning the state 3-A wrestling championship.

In fact, that is what epitomizes these talented students from all seven schools. All of them worked hard to prepare themselves to win. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we offer our congratulations to outstanding student athletes at Greensboro Day, High Point Central, Eastern Randolph, Northwest Guilford, Western Alamance, Southwestern Randolph and Ragsdale.